UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/003,594	10/31/2001	William Ho Chang	1282-003/MMM	4758

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2157	

DATE MAILED: 03/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _31 October 2001_.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1 - 91_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1 - 91_ is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) _1,10,34,61 and 79_ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This application is responsive to application filed on Oct. 31, 2001. Claims 1 – 91

are pending examination.

Specification

Claims 1, 10, 34, 61 and 79 objected to because of the following informalities:

- claim 1 line 12, applicant mentions one "attribute(s)" .

- claim 10, line 1, applicant mentions claim (A8). Claim A8 does not exist in the

  application.

- Claim 34 line 1, applicant mentions claim 1, examiner thinks applicant meant

  claim 27.

- Claim 61 is mentioned twice in the application.

- Claim 79 line 1, applicant mentions claim (D7). Claim D7 does not exist in the

  application.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section
351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States
only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2)
of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1 – 12 , 15 – 38, 41 – 60, 62 – 81 and 84 – 91 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cromer et al .U.S. Patent No.6,493,104 9referred

to hereafter as Cromer).

Cromer teaches a system and method for permitting a computer to detect the

presence of a printer. The computer establishes a communications link with the printer

so that the computer may utilize the printer to print information (see abstract).

As to claims 1, 27, 51 and 72, Cromer teaches a data output controller that

controls interaction between an information apparatus and a selected output device in

connection with the selected output device rendering data content accessed from the

information apparatus, comprising:

means for managing a communication channel between the information

apparatus and the selected output device (see col.1 line 64 – col. 2 line 9 Cromer

discloses detecting and establishing communications link with a printer) ;

means for providing to the information apparatus over the communication

channel at least one attribute associated with the selected output device and one or

more device-dependent software components for enabling the data content to be

rendered by the selected output device (see col. 3 lines 1 – 11, Cromer discloses a

generic wireless driver is utilized to enable the printer to print) ; and

means for receiving over the communication channel data content conformed at

least in part with the at least one attributes (see col. 5 lines 50 – 64 and fig. 3 Cromer

discloses the necessary driver for the selected printer and establishing a communication

session with the printer); and

means for providing the at least partly conformed data content to the selected

output device to be rendered (see col. 5 lines 50 – 64 and fig. 3 Cromer discloses the

necessary driver for the selected printer and establishing a communication session with

the printer).

As to claims 2, 28, and 73, Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, and 72

respectively in which the at least one attribute is provided over the communication

channel in response to the at least one attribute being identified as not available on the

information apparatus (see col. 5 lines 50 – 64 and fig. 3).

As to claims 3, and 29, Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, and 27,

respectively further comprising means for providing over the communication channel

one or more output device driver components enabling the data content to be rendered

on the selected output device (see col. 5 lines 50 – 64 and fig. 3).

As to claims 4, 30, and 52 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 3, 27, and 51

respectively in which the one or more output device driver components are provided

over the communication channel in response to the one or more device driver

components being identified as not available on the information apparatus (see col. 5

line 50 – col. 4 line 9 and fig. 3).

As to claims 5, 31, 53 and 74 Cromer teaches the controller of claim 1, 27, 51

and 72 respectively, in which the one or more components include software code (see

col. 5 line 50 – col. 4 line 9).

As to claims 6, 32, 54 and 75 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51 and 72 respectively, in which the one or more components include a software application (see col. 5 line 50 – col. 4 line 9).

As to claims 7, 33, 55 and 76 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51 and 72 respectively in which the one or more components relate to one or more of a device driver, a printer driver, an output driver, or a user interface (see col. 5 line 50 – col. 4 line 9).

As to claims 8, 34, 56 and 77 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51 and 72 respectively in which the attribute associated with the selected output device relates to one or more of device identification, device make, device model, device type, device input data format, device input language, device feature set, device specifications, device quality of service, device type of service, device availability of service, and device service fee, device authentication, device security, device resolution, device bit depth, device color space, device number of colors, device color table, and a device half toning table (see col. 6 lines 10 – 32 and fig. 4).

As to claims 9, 35, 57 and 78 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51 and 72 further comprising means for searching for the information apparatus and establishing the communication channel with it once discovered in the search (see col. 2, lines 45 – 55).

As to claims 10, 36, 58 and 79 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 8, 27, 51 and 72 further comprising means for broadcasting availability of the selected output device together with the at least one attribute associated with the selected output device

(see col. 6 lines 10 – 18).

As to claims 11, 37, 59 and 80 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51
and 72 respectively further comprising means for passively awaiting discovery by the
information apparatus and establishing the communication channel with the information
apparatus once discovered (see col.2 lines 49 – 55).

As to claims 12, 38, 60 and 81 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51
and 72 respectively further comprising means for providing authentication of the
information apparatus or its operator (see claim 4).

As to claims 15, and 62 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1 and 27,
respectively with a configuration for installation within the output device (see col. 3 line
58 - line 20).

As to claims 16, and 63 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, and 51
respectively with a configuration to be externally connected to one or more output
devices (see col. 3 line 58 - line 20).

As to claims 17, and 41 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1 and 51
respectively in which the communication channel is a wireless communication channel
(see col. 5 lines 18 – 24).

As to claims 18, 42, 64 and 84 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 17, 27, 51
and 72 respectively, in which the wireless communication is a radio communication (see
col. 5 lines 18 – 24).

As to claims 19, and 43 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 17, and 27 respectively in which the wireless communication is an infrared communication (see col. 5 lines 18 – 24).

As to claims 20, 44, 65 and 85 Cromer teaches   the controller of claims 1, 27, 51 and 72 respectively, in which the selected output device is a printer (see col. 2 lines 49 – 55).

As to claims 21, 45, 66 and 85 Cromer teaches the controller of claim 1, 27, 51 and 72 further comprising means for processing and converting the at least partly conformed data content to an output data that is compatible with the selected output device (see col. 5 lines 50 – 64).

As to claims 22, 46, 67 and 87 Cromer teaches the controller of claim 1, 27, 51 and 72 further comprising means for converting the at least partly conformed data content to an output data that is compatible with one of an output device, a printer, a printer engine, an output engine, a display engine, or a printer controller (see col. 2 lines 49 – 55).

As to claims 23, 47, 68 and 88 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51 and 72 respectively further comprising means for performing at least one raster image processing operation (see col. 3 lines 39 – 43).

As to claims 24, 48, 69 and 89 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51 and 72 respectively in which the data content corresponds to an output job, the controller further comprising means for queuing and storing one or more output jobs to be provided to the output device (see col. 4 lines 27 – 36).

As to claims 25, 49, 70 and 90 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51

and 72 respectively further comprising means for storing one or more components

associated with one or more output devices (see col. 4 lines 27 – 36).

As to claims 26, 50, 71 and 26 Cromer teaches the controller of claims 1, 27, 51

and 72 respectively further comprising means for obtaining authentication information

from the information apparatus to authenticate permission for the information apparatus

to access the selected output device (see claim 4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.   Claims 13,14,39,40,61,82,83 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Cromer in view of Monaghan et al. U.S. Patent 6,840,441 (referred to

hereafter Monaghan).

Cromer teaches the invention as mentioned above. Cromer teaches a system

and method for permitting a computer to detect the presence of a printer. The computer

establishes a communications link with the printer so that the computer may utilize the

printer to print information (see abstract).

As to claims 1, 27, 51 and 72, Cromer teaches a data output controller that

controls interaction between an information apparatus and a selected output device in

connection with the selected output device rendering data content accessed from the

information apparatus, comprising:

means for managing a communication channel between the information

apparatus and the selected output device (see col.1 line 64 – col. 2 line 9 Cromer

discloses detecting and establishing communications link with a printer) ;

means for providing to the information apparatus over the communication

channel at least one attribute associated with the selected output device and one or

more device-dependent software components for enabling the data content to be

rendered by the selected output device (see col. 3 lines 1 – 11, Cromer discloses a

generic wireless driver is utilized to enable the printer to print) ; and

means for receiving over the communication channel data content conformed at

least in part with the at least one attributes (see col. 5 lines 50 – 64 and fig. 3 Cromer

discloses the necessary driver for the selected printer and establishing a communication

session with the printer); and

means for providing the at least partly conformed data content to the selected

output device to be rendered (see col. 5 lines 50 – 64 and fig. 3 Cromer discloses the

necessary driver for the selected printer and establishing a communication session with

the printer).

Cromer does not teach processing and means for calculating payment of the

data content by the output device, However Monaghan teaches self service terminal in

which users are able to pay for their purchases. It would have been obvious to on the of

the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to include the self

service terminal in Cromer's invention because doing so would allow to increase

revenue and provide valuable service to consumers.

Conclusion

4.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

> Point And Print In A Distributed Environment By Snip U.S. Patent No. 5,699,495
>
> Method ,Apparatus , System And Information Storage Medium For Wireless
>
> Communication by Matsui et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,167,514.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Sargon N Nano whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4007. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 hour.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sargon Nano
March 4, 2005

SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER